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Patent  
Attorney's Docket No. 001560-349

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of )  
Nobuo TSURUOKA et al )  
Application No.: 09/147,947 )  
Filed: March 24, 1999 )  
For: NOVEL SERINE PROTEASE )



Group Art Unit: 1652  
Examiner: William Moore  
MAR 15 2001  
TECH CENTER 1600/2900

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**REPLY AND AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In complete response to the Office Action dated September 12, 2000, please amend the above identified application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please delete claims 1-4, 11, 13 and 20 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please replace claims 5, 6, 9, and 14-16 as follows:

03/20/2001 LPENDER 00000001 024800 09147947  
01, FC:103 576.00 CH

5. (Twice Amended) DNA which codes for the serine protease, domain or their partial peptides as claimed in claim 21.

6. (Twice Amended) DNA which codes for a peptide having serine protease, domain or their partial peptide activity, and is hybridizable with DNA that codes for the serine protease, domain or their partial peptides as claimed in claim 21 under stringent conditions.

Sub E1